

the United States, that the United States has done something untoward. The United States can accept it or not accept it. There is no requirement whatsoever for the United States to accept what a non-binding mediation panel—one panelist named by the United States, the other by Jordan, a third selected between them—might suggest. Again, it is non-binding.

Finally, I might say that I do believe this agreement does set a precedent, by definition, because it is the first of its kind. That is a precedent. I hope that all future trade agreements will now, after the passage of this agreement, include proper, reasonable labor and environmental provisions, because that is where we are in the world today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Who yields time? The Senator from Texas.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I think I have pretty well said everything I came to say. Let me yield back my time and then if someone else wants to speak, they can come speak. If not, we can just remain in a quorum call until we are ready to vote. With that, let me yield back the remainder of my time, seeing the distinguished majority leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Texas. Especially I thank the chair of the Senate Finance Committee and the ranking member for their work in getting us to this point.

I simply wanted to come to the floor before the end of the debate to express my strong support for the Jordan Free Trade Area Implementation Act. This is the first-ever U.S. free trade agreement with an Arab country. I think at these very tenuous and challenging times, there could be no stronger statement for us to make than to pass this legislation. I appreciate very much the work by all of those involved to see that it is done.

I note this agreement was negotiated before the events of September 11. We are moving ahead today because forging this agreement is the right thing to do for the people of the United States. It is also the right thing to do for the people of Jordan. It serves as a statement that our enemy is terrorism, not the Muslim world.

More than a year ago, President Clinton and King Abdullah began discussions about how we could more closely link the United States and Jordan, which, as everyone knows, is an increasingly important and strategic friend in the Middle East. This act is the result of those efforts, an important step in deepening that bond. When President Clinton and King Abdullah signed the United States-Jordan Free Trade Agreement a year ago, they expressed their concern about the impact of trade on workers and the environment. I share that concern today.

I am pleased that written into the text for the first time ever are several provisions to protect the environment and the rights of workers.

I see this as not only an important bilateral agreement but hopefully a template for future trade agreements as well.

I recognize, as others have noted, that several of my colleagues have concerns about how this agreement is structured, and I thank them for saving this debate for another day and allowing us to move forward on this important legislation.

Our disagreements on this bill are far outweighed by our areas of agreement. We all agree on the strategic importance and good friendship of the Kingdom of Jordan.

Bordering Israel, Syria, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia, Jordan sits in the middle of a wide range of critical U.S. national interests—geographically and politically.

This centrality has been bolstered by Jordan's supportive orientation toward U.S. interests. This agreement should stand as a strong symbol of the importance we attach to our relations with Jordan.

The Jordanians have taken admirable steps to improve relations with Israel, including the 1994 peace treaty that helped to advance the Middle East peace process.

This trade agreement, as the foreign assistance and debt relief before it, is a signal to Jordan that we appreciate its efforts at peace in the Middle East and that we hope for more.

That view is held by Israeli Prime Minister Sharon, who, on his first visit to Washington as Prime Minister, urged Congress to pass this historic trade agreement.

This trade agreement is also a signal to King Abdullah that we support his efforts at economic modernization. He and his team have instituted a series of significant economic reforms in order to restore growth.

We understand those reforms, while necessary, are painful. With this vote today, we are telling the Jordanians their reform and austerity will pay dividends.

Lastly, and most importantly, this agreement signals that the United States is not the enemy of the Arab and Muslim world.

Osama bin Laden and his associate extremists argue that the West is waging a war on Islam. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are waging a war on terrorism.

Jordan's participation in this international coalition against terror will only hasten our triumph and isolate the extremists and criminals who attacked America 2 weeks ago.

By further solidifying our important relationship at this critical time, the United States-Jordan Free Trade Area Implementation Act will give further impetus to the international coalition

against terrorism and advance vital U.S. national security interests as well.

For these reasons, I come to the floor in support of H.R. 2603 and hope that all my colleagues will do the same.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired. The bill is before the Senate and open to amendment. If there be no amendment to be offered, the question is on the third reading and passage of the bill.

The bill (H.R. 2603) was ordered to a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 2603) was passed.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. GRAMM. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF KIRK VAN TINE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now go into executive session and proceed to vote on Executive Calendar No. 385, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Kirk Van Tine, of Virginia, to be General Counsel of the Department of Transportation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. REID. I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) is necessarily absent.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 285 Ex.]

YEAS—97

Akaka	Byrd	Daschle
Allard	Campbell	Dayton
Allen	Cantwell	DeWine
Baucus	Carnahan	Dodd
Bayh	Carper	Domenici
Bennett	Chafee	Dorgan
Biden	Cleland	Durbin
Bingaman	Clinton	Edwards
Bond	Cochran	Enzi
Boxer	Collins	Feingold
Breaux	Conrad	Feinstein
Brownback	Corzine	Fitzgerald
Bunning	Craig	Frist
Burns	Crapo	Graham

Gramm	Levin	Schumer
Grassley	Lieberman	Sessions
Gregg	Lincoln	Shelby
Hagel	Lott	Smith (NH)
Harkin	Lugar	Smith (OR)
Hatch	McCain	Snowe
Helms	McConnell	Specter
Hollings	Mikulski	Stabenow
Hutchinson	Miller	Stevens
Hutchison	Murkowski	Thomas
Inhofe	Murray	Thompson
Inouye	Nelson (FL)	Thurmond
Johnson	Nelson (NE)	Torricelli
Kennedy	Nickles	Voinovich
Kerry	Reed	Warner
Kohl	Reid	Wellstone
Kyl	Roberts	Wyden
Landrieu	Rockefeller	
Leahy	Sarbanes	

NOT VOTING—3

Ensign	Jeffords	Santorum
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. REID. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 1438, which the clerk will report by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1438) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2002 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. As I announced for the majority leader this morning, he has every intent of finishing this bill by tomorrow. This is one of the most important pieces of legislation we have dealt with all year. People who have amendments should offer those amendments. I have spoken to the two managers. We are in the process of getting ready to offer a unanimous consent agreement that we would have a finite list of amendments by 4 o'clock today. Everyone who wants to offer an amendment must notify their respective manager or aide by 4 o'clock today. I hope we can propound that unanimous consent agreement within the next few minutes so we will know the status of all the amendments.

The managers have indicated if we have no amendments, they will move to third reading.

Mr. LEVIN. Could we tell the Senators who have amendments they wish to offer, if they could notify our respective Cloakrooms, it would facilitate things. We are not ready yet to offer a

unanimous consent agreement, but we will propound that agreement in the next few minutes to set a time for those who want to offer amendments. Is that agreeable?

Mr. WARNER. We are endeavoring to do that on our side. A number of Senators have just returned to Washington. They need just a bit of time to assess this situation. I know there is a strong spirit of cooperation on this side to move forward with the bill and complete it by Wednesday afternoon early. In order to do that, we have to have this type of working document from which to chart our course, night and day, between now and Wednesday afternoon, and recognize that we have to set aside time for the CR when it comes.

Mr. LEVIN. I wonder if it is agreeable with my friend from Virginia we seek to complete action on this bill by tomorrow night, rather than Wednesday. That is the goal. I take it the Senator would agree with that goal?

Mr. WARNER. I agree.

Mr. DOMENICI. I say to the distinguished chairman, I understand there is an amendment that the Senator from Kentucky will offer.

Mr. LEVIN. Senator JACK REED has been waiting to make an opening statement.

Mr. DOMENICI. Of course. And I ask it be in order that after the first amendment offered by the Senator from Kentucky, I offer an amendment on behalf of Senator BINGAMAN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, we have to clear that. I wonder if we could withhold that for a moment.

Mr. DOMENICI. Sure.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, it is hard to hear. I would like to know what kind of agreement we are coming to concerning amendments.

Mr. WARNER. I do not think we have reached any agreement. We have just come to the floor for the purpose of starting consideration of the bill. I defer to my chairman. As I understand, we have colleagues waiting to move ahead. I am prepared to try to do what we can, subject to his concurrence.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, if we could recognize Senator REED, who is waiting to make an opening statement, and while he is giving that statement, we will try to line up the order of amendments. Is that agreeable?

Mr. WARNER. Yes.

Mr. SESSIONS. I would like to have a chance for opening comments, perhaps 10 minutes for that, whenever it is appropriate.

Mr. LEVIN. I ask that the Chair recognize Senator REED, then Senator SESSIONS, and at that point, after opening statements, we hope to have at least one or two amendments lined up in terms of order of recognition.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request of the Senator from Michigan regarding the order of speakers?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I thank the Senators from Michigan and Virginia not only for their gracious offer of the opportunity to speak this afternoon but also for their work as chairman and ranking member of this committee. I thank Chairman LEVIN and Senator WARNER for their leadership.

I rise this afternoon in support of this authorization bill for the Department of Defense for the year 2002. It comes at a critical time in history where we have to prepare for a series of threats, both anticipated before September 11 and now understood very well after September 11.

I also speak specifically with respect to my responsibility as chairman of the Strategic Subcommittee of the Armed Services Committee. In that regard, I first thank and commend Senator WAYNE ALLARD of Colorado, the ranking member. Senator ALLARD did a tremendous amount of work, and his perseverance, diligence, his good humor, and his cooperation were essential to the legislation we are contemplating and considering today. He has truly done a remarkable job. It was a distinct pleasure and honor working with him. I thank him for his activities.

The jurisdiction of the Strategic Subcommittee has a very wide swath, including space and space systems, strategic programs, intelligence, reconnaissance and surveillance programs, ballistic missile defense programs, and Defense-funded programs at the Department of Energy.

The Strategic Subcommittee held hearings on all of the matters of jurisdiction, including reports of the Space Commission and the National Reconnaissance Organization Commission. We had extensive hearings, particularly on the ballistic missile defense organization. We had at one point a 5-hour hearing on their plans and programs for this year. We also had a very useful and instructive hearing on the status of our long-range bomber force. Even though we had a compressed timeframe to consider these issues because of the late submission of the budget, the Strategic Subcommittee conducted extensive hearings.

The result is the legislation we have before the Senate, a product of these hearings, and of hard work, particularly by the staff. I commend and compliment the staff for their intense effort and their thorough analysis of the requests made to the committee.

Based upon these hearings and this extensive analysis, we were able to increase, in many critical areas, authorization for programs. In providing additional funds for these programs, we were guided by the recommendations of the military services themselves. We were very attentive to the unfunded requests outlined and identified by the Departments of the Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, their so-called